



# Test for Low Pressure Gas Systems

CITY OF LONG BEACH PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT  
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## GAS TEST CHECKLIST

Obtain a plumbing permit for installations of new gas pipe over 6 feet in length. A permit is not required for gas piping not more than 6 feet in length between an approved gas outlet and any gas-fired appliance, provided that any such gas-fired appliance is in the same room as the gas outlet.

If the gas meter needs to be relocated due to an addition or alteration to an existing building, call the Long Beach Gas Department Inspection Division. A Gas Department Inspector will establish the new location of the gas meter.

No gas piping shall be installed in or on the ground under any building or structure and all exposed gas, piping shall be kept at least 6" inches above grade or structure.

Ferrous gas piping installed underground in exterior locations shall be protected from corrosion by approved factory coatings. All gas pipe protective coatings shall be machine applied. Apply listed primer and spirally wrap listed tape to provide protection to those fittings and short sections where the factory coating has been damaged or stripped for threading. Use minimum 10-mil tape stretched around the fittings and unprotected areas to provide a minimum 40-mil thickness. All horizontal metallic piping shall have at least 12 inches of earth cover. Call for inspection before covering pipe.

The gas test shall be performed after all gas piping authorized by the permit has been installed, and before any such piping has been covered or concealed.

All gas appliance connectors shall be removed from the gas piping that is to be tested. Pressure necessary to test gas system will damage the gas appliances.

Remove gas shut-off valves from all gas pipe outlets after gas system has been shut off at meter. Cap all other inlets and outlets to the system. Gas shut-off valves will not hold pressure for the gas test.

Required air pressure tests of 10 pounds or less for low-pressure gas systems shall be performed utilizing dial gauges of 1/10-pound incrementation or less. A 15-pound test gauge is most commonly used, however a maximum 20-pound gauge would be acceptable as well.

Install air pressure test dial gauge on gas pipe. Apply pipe dope or Teflon tape on pipe threads to ensure a proper seal.

Perform air pressure test. The air test shall be made by attaching an air compressor testing apparatus to any suitable opening, and, after closing all other inlets and outlets to the system, forcing air into the system until there is a uniform gauge pressure of 10 pounds per square inch. The pressure shall be held without induction of additional air for a period of at least 15 minutes. **NOTE: Never fill the gas system with water.**

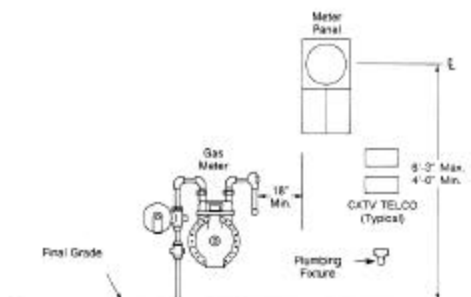
If the gas piping system does not hold the required 10 pounds of pressure for 15 minutes, check the gas piping system for leaks. Leaks in gas piping shall be located by applying soapy water to the exterior of the piping when the gas piping system is under pressure. If a leak is present, the soapy solution will bubble. It shall not be permissible to repair defects in gas piping or fittings, but upon having been located, the defective pipe or fitting shall be removed and replaced with sound material.

After the gas piping system has been tested and holds pressure to pass the required test, call for final piping inspection. The inspector will witness the gas pressure test, and if the installation is found to comply, will approve the installation of the gas piping system. The inspector will then notify the Gas Department of the approval. The Long Beach Gas Department will then provide service.

### Typical Gas Gauge



### Gas Inlet Location



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